

Ref. LS-6071

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*OGC
11/16/53*

*Subj:
Legislation*

OGC Has Reviewed

12 November 1953

Memorandum for: DD/P, Chief I&R

Subject: Proposed Legislation

1. Mr. Houston, Mr. Kirkpatrick and I discussed on 10 November your memorandum for the Inspector General, dated 2 November, subject as above.

2. We reviewed past attempts which have been made in this field by various agencies of the Government during World War II and subsequently, none of which have been successful. When General Vandenberg was Director of Central Intelligence, we made some informal explorations in this regard along the lines of the British Official Secrets Act.

3. It is our conclusion that CIA should not initiate any steps to secure such legislation as it would appear to run counter to our prohibition against internal security functions. However, you may be assured that if the Department of Justice initiates certain steps to tighten up the espionage laws we will take steps to support and assist them if possible.

4. We are thoroughly sympathetic to the problem which you have outlined in your proposal, and will be glad to discuss it further with you at any time.

Walter L. Pforzheimer
Legislative Counsel

OGC:WLP/blc
Orig. & 1 - Add.
2 - Stayback

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